

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 3-6 and 9 as follows:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A punching apparatus for punching a hole at a predetermined location on a work piece comprising

- a punch integrated into any one of a moving part of a press working machine and a supporting part of the press working machine; and
- a die integrated with the other one of the moving part and the supporting part, wherein each of the punch and the die has a plurality of planar surfaces to be fitted with datum planar surfaces of a fitting jig for positioning the punch and the die with respect to each other ~~and at least one planar surface of the punch and at least one planar surface of the die are simultaneously fitted with the same datum planar surface of the fitting jig, and wherein said fitting jig has inner surfaces comprising a plurality of planar surfaces, and said datum planar surfaces of said fitting jig are arranged on said inner surfaces, and a plurality of planar surfaces of said inner surfaces of said fitting jig can contact with the plurality of planar surfaces of each of the punch and the die so as to fit at least one planar surface of each of the punch and the die with a same datum planar surface of said fitting jig simultaneously.~~

Claim 2. (Previously Presented) The punching apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the hole has a non-circular cross section.

Claim 3. (Previously Presented) The punching apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the punch and the die are rotatable independent of the moving part and the supporting part

about an axis parallel to the direction for the punching, and are not rotatable relative to each other due to a touching of the planar surfaces for fitting with the datum planar surfaces of the fitting jig.

Claim 4. (Previously Presented) The punching apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said planar surfaces for fitting lie parallel to the direction for punching and are vertical relative to each other.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) The punching unit for a punching apparatus for punching a hole at a predetermined location on a work piece, comprising

- a punch;
- a die; and
- a fitting jig for positioning the punch and the die relative to each other, wherein each of the punch and the die has a plurality of planar surfaces to be fitted with datum planar surfaces of the fitting jig for positioning the punch and the die with respect to each other ~~and at least one planar surface of the punch and at least one planar surface of the die are simultaneously fitted with the same datum planar surface of the fitting jig, and wherein said fitting jig has inner surfaces comprising a plurality of planar surfaces, and said datum planar surfaces of said fitting jig are arranged on said inner surfaces, and a plurality of planar surfaces of said inner surfaces of said fitting jig can contact with the plurality of planar surfaces of each of the punch and the die so as to fit at least one planar surface of each of the punch and the die with a same datum planar surface of said fitting jig simultaneously.~~

Claim 6. (Currently Amended) A punching unit according to claim 5, wherein said punch and the die are rotatable independent of the punching machine, about an axis parallel to the direction for punching and can rotate simultaneously in a state where the datum planar surfaces of the fitting jig are attached with each of the planar surfaces for fitting of the punch and the die.

Claim 7. (Cancelled)

Claim 8. (Cancelled)

Claim 9. (Currently Amended) A punching apparatus for punching a hole at a predetermined location on a work piece comprising by means of:

a punch integrated into any one of a moving part of a press working machine and a supporting part of the press working machine;

a die integrated with the other one of the moving part and the supporting part, wherein each of the punch and the die has a plurality of planar surfaces to be fitted with datum planar surfaces of a fitting jig for positioning the punch and the die with respect to each other ~~and at least one planar surface of the punch and at least one planar surface of the die are simultaneously fitted with the same datum planar surface of the fitting jig, and wherein said fitting jig has inner surfaces comprising a plurality of planar surfaces, and said datum planar surfaces of said fitting jig are arranged on said inner surfaces, and a plurality of planar surfaces of said inner surfaces of said fitting jig can contact with the plurality of planar surfaces of each of the punch and the die so as to fit at least one planar surface of each of the punch and the die with a same datum planar surface of said fitting jig simultaneously, and~~

~~wherein~~ the hole has a non-circular cross section; and ~~wherein~~ the punch and the die are rotatable independently of the moving part and the supporting part, about an axis parallel

to the direction for the punching, and are not rotatable relative to each other due to a touching of the planar surfaces for fitting with the datum planar surfaces of the fitting jig.

Claim 10. (Previously Presented) A punching apparatus for punching a hole at a predetermined location on a work piece comprising

a punch integrated into any one of a moving part of a press working machine and a supporting part of the press working machine; and

a die integrated with the other one of the moving part and the supporting part, wherein each of the punch and the die has a plurality of planes to be fitted with datum planes of a fitting jig,

wherein the punch and the die are rotatable independent of the moving part and the supporting part about an axis parallel to the direction for the punching, and are not possible to rotate relative to each other by touching the planes for fitting with the datum planes of the fitting jig, and

wherein said fitting jig has a U-shaped cross section having a pair of arms on one inner surface of which one of the datum planes is arranged and on the other one inner surface of which the other one of the datum planes is arranged in order to hold the punch and the die between said pair of arms and also order to fit the plane for fitting of the punch and the die with the datum planes of the fitting jig while rotating about the axis.

Claim 11. (Previously Presented) The punching unit for a punching apparatus for punching a hole at a predetermined location on a work piece, comprising

a punch;

a die; and

a fitting jig for positioning the punch and the die relative to each other, wherein each of the punch and the die has plurality of faces for fitting and the fitting jig has datum planes to be fitted with the planes for fitting of the punch and the die,

wherein said punch and the die are rotatable independent of the punching machine, about an axis parallel to the direction for punching and can rotate simultaneously in a state where the datum planes of the fitting jig are attached with each of the planes for fitting of the punch and the die, and

wherein said fitting jig has a U-shaped cross section having a pair of arms on one inner surface of which one of the datum planes is arranged and on the other one inner surface of which the other one of the datum planes is arranged in order to hold the punch and the die between said pair of arms and also order to fit the plane for fitting of the punch and the die with the datum planes of the fitting jig while rotating about the axis.